PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert J. Lickton

Serial No.: 08/117,396

Filed: September 3, 1993

For: MASTER CHAIN LINK

Group Art Unit: 3506

Examiner: Schoeppel, R.

Atty. Dock. No.: LICK:008

37 CFR §1.131 Affidavit of Robert J. Lickton

RECEIVED

JUIN 6 / 1994

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

**GROUP 3500** 

- I, Robert J. Lickton, being duly sworn, Mereby depose and say that:
- 1. I have been employed by R. L. L. Limited (hereinafter "R. L. L."), assignee of the above referenced patent application, since before January 12, 1993 (filing date of U.S. Pat. No. 5,299,416 to Wu, which in turn is prior to the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 5,291,730 to Wu) to present.
- 2. I invented the invention claimed in claims 1-19 of the above referenced patent application in the United States of America before January 12, 1993.
- 3. The documents, attached hereto and dated prior to
  January 12, 1993, are true photocopies of a sketch, a production
  blueprint, and a billing invoice. The sketch, dated prior to
  January 12, 1993, shows conception of the invention of claims 119 in the United States of America prior to January 12, 1993
  (filing date of U.S. Patent No. 5,299,416 to Wu, which in turn is

prior to the filing date of U.S. Patent No. 5,291,730 to Wu). The sketch is a top plan view of a plate of a master chain link embodying the claimed invention. The illustrated plate of the master chain link includes an aperture having a narrow circular portion, a wide circular portion, and an elongated slot connecting the narrow circular portion to the wide circular portion. The narrow circular portion has a countersink formed therein for receiving and substantially concealing the head of a pin attached to an opposing plate. The elongated slot permits movement of the pin head between the narrow circular portion and the wide circular portion. The right end of the illustrated plate (as viewed in the sketch) forms an extension for preventing movement of the pin head from the narrow circular portion to the wide curvilinear portion (i.e., preventing disengagement) without rotating the chain link out of line relative to an adjacent interconnected roller link.

The billing invoice dated June 3, 1993, illustrates that the master chain link embodying the claimed invention was actually reduced to practice at least as early as June 3, 1993. The master chain link was actually delivered two to three weeks prior to June 3, 1993. The manufacturer (VANART ENGINEERING COMPANY) used the blueprint dated April 30, 1993, to produce the master chain link. As evidenced by the short lapse of time between the time just prior to January 12, 1993, and the aforementioned date of actual reduction to practice (at least as early as June 3, 1993), I worked diligently in the completion of the claimed

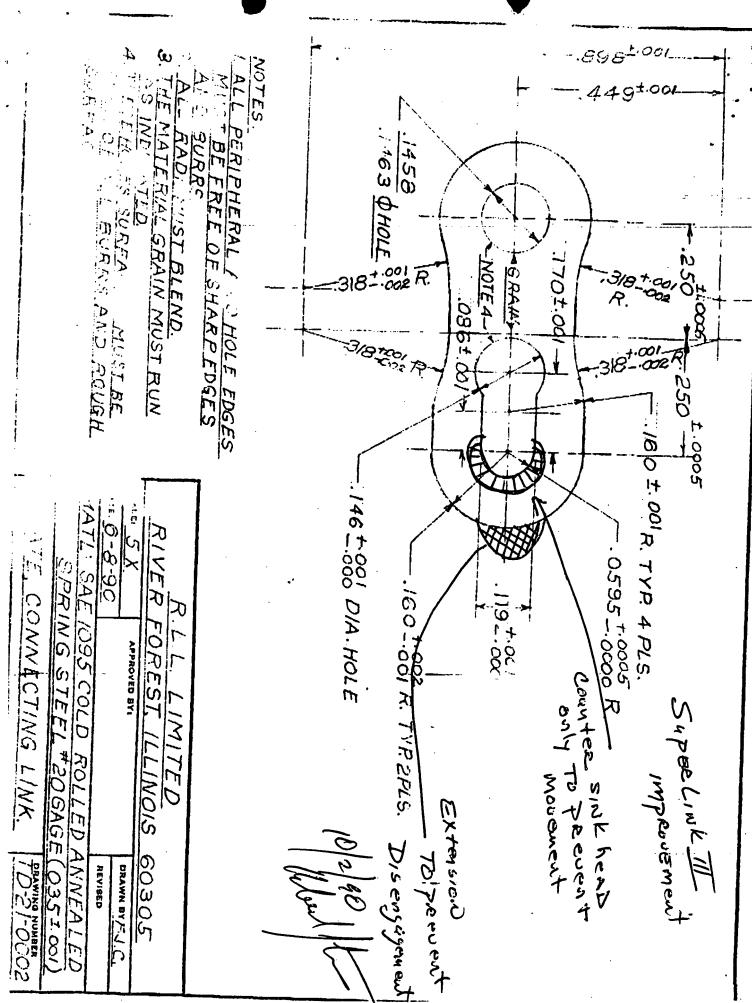
invention from the time just prior January 12, 1993, to the date of actual reduction to practice.

4. In view of the sketch, the production blueprint, and the billing invoice, there was conception of the claimed invention prior to January 12, 1993, coupled with due diligence from prior to said date to a subsequent actual reduction to practice.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Robert J. Lickton

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## VANART ENGINEERING COMPANY

DESIGNING • EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT • MANUFACTURING
TOOLS • DIES • FIXTURES • METAL STAMPINGS
FROM IDEA TO COMPLETED PRODUCT

INVOICE No. 54873

Sold to

ATTN: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

LICKTON'S CYCLE CITY

310 LAKE ST

OAK PARK IL 60302

ORDER COMPLETE

Delivered to

SAME

une 3, 1993		OUR ORDER MO.	TOOLING TERMS: Productio	. NET 30 DAYS n 1% 10 days: net 8
		Mare Title 2.4 year and a second	PRICE	7000
-	PART#TD-16-0002 CONNECTION CHANGE TOOLING TO COIN .( HOLE DIA.: ETAMP SUPER LINK 111: CONNECTING LINKS ONE CART	O10 CHAMPHER AND TOTAL:	\$73.50/N	\$480.00 150.00 \$ 36.75 \$666.75

